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Status: Pending

Our Reference: 94100420(EP)USC1X1C1D9 PDDDArt Unit: 2154

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A decoder for a pipeline comprising:

a processor for operating on data streams of data having portions encoded by respectively different compression standards;

a token generator responsive to the encoded data streams for generating at least one data token and /or a control token corresponding to each of the different compression standards; and

the processor being conditioned to process the at least one data token according to the different compression standard to which the generated control token corresponds, by using said control token to prepare said pipeline for processing at one or more of a plurality of stages.

Claim 2 (canceled)

Claim 3 (currently amended): The decoder of claim 2 1, wherein the at least one data token is altered by ~~the at least one of the~~ plurality of stages.

Claim 4 (currently amended): The decoder of claim 2 1, wherein the at least one data token is altered by ~~the at least one of the~~ plurality of stages and

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conveyed to another one of the plurality of stages for further processing.

Claim 5 (currently amended): The decoder of claim 2 1, wherein the token generator resides in one of the stages.

Claim 6 (currently amended): The decoder of claim 2 1; wherein the generated control token interfaces with each of the stages.

Claim 7 (currently amended): The decoder of claim 2 1, wherein the generated control token interacts with predetermined ones of the stages.

Claim 8 (currently amended): The decoder of claim 2 1, wherein the at least one data token is altered by the predetermined ones of the stages.

Claim 9 (currently amended): The decoder of claim 2 1, wherein the generated control token interacts with adjacent ones of stages.

Claim 10 (currently amended): The decoder of claim 2 1, wherein the generated control token interacts with non-adjacent ones of the stages.

Claim 11 (currently amended): A method of operating in a pipeline on data streams ~~of data~~ having portions encoded by respectively different standards comprising:

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responsive to the encoded data streams, generating a control token
corresponding to each of the different standards and at least one data token; and
processing the at least one data token according to the different compression
standard to which the generated control token corresponds by using said control
token to prepare said pipeline for processing at one or more of a plurality of stages.

Claim 12 (original): The method of claim 11, wherein processing the at least
one data token comprises altering the at least one data token.